

MINUTES OF MEETING
RUSH RIVER WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
FEBRUARY 18, 2014

The Rush River Water Resource District met on February 18, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were Raymond Wolfer, Chairman; William A. Hejl, Manager; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Brittany C. Moen, Administrative Assistant; Sean M. Fredricks, Attorney for the Board; Mike Opat, Engineer for the Board; Brady Woodard, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Vernon Knight, Arnold Knight and David Baumler, property owners in Amenia Township; and Tim Iwen, Arthur resident. Manager Dick Sundberg was absent.

Amenia Township Improvement District No. 74

Sean Fredricks gave an update on the Amenia Township Improvement District No. 74 eminent domain litigation issue. A meeting with the property owners is being scheduled.

Arnold Knight said water in Section 17 of Amenia Township has been drained to the north by the previous owner, but would need to be drained to the south and east to benefit from the Amenia Township Improvement District No. 74 project. Mr. Knight asked if the property could be removed from the assessment district. Mr. Fredricks said the Water Resource District would need to reassess the district. The Board indicated they would look at doing a reassessment next year.

Brady Woodard said seeding work remains near the railroad, along with other small cleanup items on the project.

Drain #29A – culverts one mile west of I-29

Mr. Woodard reviewed possible options for the work needed on the culverts one mile west of I-29 on Drain #29A. There have been complaints of water not flowing through the culverts as designed, creating an issue with standing water.

It was moved by Manager Hejl and seconded by Manager Wolfer to authorize Moore Engineering, Inc. to hire a contractor to proceed with the necessary alterations to the culverts one mile west of I-29 on Drain #29A in sections 35 and 36 of Gardner Township, at an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Development of retention projects

Mr. Fredricks reviewed discussion from a past Cass County Joint Water Resource District meeting regarding the development of retention projects on the Rush River and Lower Rush River. Mike Opat is working on a proposal on these projects for the Cass County Joint Water Resource District.

Requests for flood risk reduction project funding assistance from Cass County flood sales tax

The Board discussed project funding assistance from Cass County flood sales tax. The Cass County Joint Water Resource District will add Rush River Water Resource District flood risk reduction projects to the request for assistance from Cass County sales tax.

Manager Hejl will check to see if Amenia is interested in pursuing a flood protection project. If so, funding from Cass County flood sales tax could be requested, as well as cost share from the State Water Commission.

State Water Plan for the 2015-2017 biennium – projects / programs to submit

The Board discussed projects and programs to potentially submit for the State Water Plan for the 2015-2017 biennium. The issue will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Animal Damage Control – First Amendment to Independent Contractor Agreement

It was moved by Manager Hejl and seconded by Manager Wolfer to approve the *First Amendment to Independent Contractor Agreement* with JAC Predator and Large Pest Control. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

It was moved by Manager Hejl, seconded by Manager Wolfer and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2014, meeting, as presented.

Bills

It was moved by Manager Hejl and seconded by Manager Wolfer to approve payment of Checks #3895 through #3902 and the electronic funds transfer, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Wolfer and Hejl. Manager Sundberg was absent. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

Rush River Snagging and Clearing

It was moved by Manager Hejl and seconded by Manager Wolfer to authorize Moore Engineering, Inc. to hire a contractor to snag and clear the Rush River from Section 22 in Amenia Township to Section 32 in Rush River Township, at a cost not to exceed \$50,000. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Woodard said property owners have been contacted and the contractor can start work tomorrow.

Adjournment

There being no further business for the Board to consider, it was moved by Manager Hejl, seconded by Manager Sundberg and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

Raymond Wolfer
Chairman

ATTEST:

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer